

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 111
By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Rabbi Lawrence S. Zierler on his appointment as Baron Hirsch Synagogue's tenth Senior Rabbi.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor those individuals who, as a result of their extraordinary professional accomplishments, have been elevated to prestigious positions of authority and public service; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Lawrence S. Zierler is one such notable individual, having recently been appointed the tenth Senior Rabbi for the Baron Hirsch Synagogue in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Baron Hirsch Synagogue, founded over 130 years ago, is both North America's largest synagogue and the largest Orthodox congregation in the United States; and

WHEREAS, born in Ontario, Rabbi Zierler graduated *magna cum laude* from Yeshiva College and was ordained at Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary; an ambitious academic and caring spiritual leader, Rabbi Zierler also holds Master's Degrees in Counseling and Human Services from John Carroll University and in Bio-Ethics from Case Western Reserve University; he is currently a fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem and its Center for Rabbinic Enrichment; and

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WHEREAS, most deserving of this appointment, Rabbi Zierler has held several noteworthy positions, including the Associate Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center of Cleveland and Director of its Alvin, Lottie, and Rachel Gray Center for Jewish Life and Learning, visiting scholar at the Cleveland College of Jewish Studies, Rabbi of Cleveland's Warrensville Center Synagogue-Kehillat Yaakov from 1990-1998, Assistant Director and Orthodox Rabbi at the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of Michigan, and Rabbi of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue in Portland, Maine; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Zierler has served on copious committees and councils in numerous capacities, including being a member of the executive committee of the Rabbinical Council of America, regional vice-president of the rabbinic alumni of R.I.E.T.S., Board of Trustees of the Jewish Community Federation and Jewish Community Center, regional rabbinic cabinet of Israel Bonds, Board of Directors of the Ohio/Kentucky/Allegheny Region of the Anti-Defamation League, the Board of Trustees and editorial committee of the *Cleveland Jewish News*, the Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland, the Cleveland chapters of American Red Magen David for Israel, Friends of the IDF, vice-president for inter-religious affairs for the Cleveland Area Chapter of the American Jewish Committee, Jewish Community Federation Chaplain for the University Hospitals of Cleveland, and a member of the hospital's Ethics Committee; and

WHEREAS, in Memphis, Rabbi Zierler has already assumed various leadership positions, including Board positions with the Jewish Federation, Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstone Yeshiva of the South, Jewish Family Services, and the Memphis Va'ad Hakehiloth; he is currently working on a book concerning Jewish ethical issues within the realm of the physician/patient relationship; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Zierler is most grateful for the loving companionship of his wife, Berni, and he is the proud father of Yoni, Roni, and Sara Nisa; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Zierler will be invested as the tenth Senior Rabbi at Baron Hirsch Synagogue on March 10, 2003; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should congratulate him on this extraordinary and well-earned promotion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Rabbi Lawrence S. Zierler on his appointment to the pulpit of Baron Hirsch Synagogue and his many accomplishments, and wish him the best in every future undertaking.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.